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is widely followed in New Zealand, where bracken is even more common than it is here. Locally it is more plentiful in dry, rather sandy regions than elsewhere, and it often makes great, branching fronds over four feet high, the stalks of which are hard, black, and wiry.

In Normandy and Brittany, bracken, the cut-off stem of which simulates a holy symbol, has for ages been used by the peasants to ward off witches from their pastures. And at least one book on religious botany says that its fresh foliage was used, among innumerable other "cradle grasses," to line the cradle at Bethlehem.

Another news article, from a Syracuse paper, tells of a local fern garden with fifty-two species harbored in a back yard at one time, most of them from Onondaga County woods. Francis B. Gregory, of 725 East Willow St., is the fern grower. Other Syracuse fern students may be interested to make his acquaintance.

WHAT FERNS SHOULD BE PROTECTED IN YOUR STATE?—In New York state, the Vermont list might well be duplicated, as far as the same species occur with us. Of course we should add the hart's tongue, and the climbing fern of which records exist, though it may be too late to save the latter. *Asplenium montanum* and *Cheilanthes lanosa* would also demand protection; also the rarer botrychiums, though the commercial plant seller would scarcely be an enemy of these, only the thoughtless botanical collector. Again I refer to the Vermont list published in the preceding issue of the Fern Journal, to cover *Dryopteris Goldiana*, and others sufficiently prized by the plant sellers to be in danger. Have I left out any others?—R. C. B.

The third of a note-worthy series of plant exhibits was held by the Massachusetts Horticultural Society in

Horticultural Hall, Boston, from May 3d to 13th. This was an exhibition of native ferns and flowering plants. Plants from various parts of New England, and regardless of their natural flowering season, had been potted months previous in preparation for this exhibit and so treated as to bring them into flower for the occasion.

The setting was elaborate and impressive. On entering the exhibition hall the spectator found himself in a wooded glade. At the far end a roaring stream plunged over a rocky ledge midst overhanging bladder ferns into a pool whence it flowed under a rustic bridge and through a bit of moist meadow where grew many moisture loving flowers and ferns, showy ladies slipper, pitcher plant, cardinal flower, high bush blueberry, rhodora, the osmunda family, marsh fern, ostrich fern, and even the humble sensitive fern. On the embankments at the foot of the spruce trees that bordered the glade was a fine show of azaleas, laurels, viburnums, the flowering dogwood, etc. Here grew most of the wood ferns and the rock ferns. The ferns respond well to conservatory treatment and they looked vigorous and well developed. The completeness of the list of ferns exhibited is well illustrated by the presence of such rarities as *Lygodium*, *Woodsia hyperborea*, *Dryopteris fragrans*, and two or three fine plants of Scott's spleenwort (*Asplenium ebenoides*) with the two parent species growing near.

Public interest was so great that the week of the exhibit was prolonged to a total of eleven days. Over 12,000 visited the exhibit in a single day and the estimated total attendance was over 100,000.

Congratulations are due the Horticultural Society and its president, Mr. Albert C. Burrage, upon the successful outcome of this unique and ambitious undertaking.